

Broadway Squares  
B-5138  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
ca. 1858, ca. 1881, ca. 1965, ca. 1995  
Public

### **Capsule Summary**

This documentation focuses on the landscaped pedestrian medians, or squares, associated with seventeen blocks of the dual north-south boulevard (Broadway) from North Avenue and Baltimore Street, with particular emphasis on the block between Ashland and Madison streets.

The Broadway Squares were constructed by 1858, and were redesigned in 1881 in the Victorian-era landscape idiom. Although the squares remained relatively unaltered between the 1880s and the 1930s, the squares underwent numerous redesigns during the late-twentieth century. A central walkway, geometric forms, large urns, fountains, and colorful and vibrant plant material characterized the 1881 design. By the early-twentieth century, Victorian-era landscape design was no longer fashionable. Much of the Victorian-era plant material and many landscape features were removed by the mid-twentieth century. The two southernmost squares and the squares in the vicinity of Johns Hopkins Hospital were redesigned during the mid- and late-1960s. The squares in front of the hospital were redesigned again during the 1990s. While tradition suggests that the Olmsted firm may have designed the squares, neither the firm's archives nor public records establish an association between the Broadway Squares and the landscape architecture firm. In addition, the ca. 1881 geometric design of the Broadway Squares reflects formal Victorian-era landscape design rather than the innovative approaches generally associated with the Olmsted firm. Today, the central path that divides each of the squares is all that remains of the late-nineteenth century design.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Broadway Squares (preferred)

other Broadway Median

### 2. Location

street and number Broadway between North Avenue & Baltimore Street not for publication

city, town Baltimore City vicinity

county

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Baltimore City

street and number 100 Holliday Street telephone

city, town Baltimore City state MD zip code 22102

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Hall liber folio

city, town Baltimore City Hall tax map tax parcel tax ID number numerous

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

| Category                                     | Ownership                                  | Current Function                              | Resource Count   |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture          | Contributing   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s)         | <input type="checkbox"/> private           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape | Noncontributing  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure           | <input type="checkbox"/> both              | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade       | 0 buildings  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                |  | <input type="checkbox"/> defense              | 17 sites   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object              |  | <input type="checkbox"/> domestic             | 0 structures   |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> education            | 2 objects  |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> funerary             | 19 Total   |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> government           |  |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> health care          |  |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> industry             |  |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture   |  |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> religion             |  |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> social               |  |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation       |  |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress     |  |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> unknown              |  |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use    |  |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> other:               |  |
|  |  |   | Number of Contributing Resources<br>previously listed in the Inventory |
|  |  |   | 0  |

## 7. Description

Inventory No. B-5138

### Condition

|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good            | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> altered      |

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### Summary

This Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) Form was prepared for the Broadway Squares, Baltimore City, in partial fulfillment of the Memorandum of Agreement dated December 2003 among the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Madison Street Properties, Inc. This documentation focuses on the landscaped pedestrian medians, or squares, associated with seventeen blocks of the dual north-south boulevard (Broadway) from North Avenue and Baltimore Street, with particular emphasis on the block between Ashland and Madison streets. The linear urban promenade created by the Broadway Squares is intersected (n-s) by Lafayette Avenue, Lanvale Street, Federal Street, Oliver Street, Preston Street, Biddle Street, Chase Street, Eager Street, Ashland Avenue, Madison Street, Monument Street, Jefferson Street, Orleans Street, Fayette Street, and Fairmount Avenue. North Avenue and Baltimore Street serve as the north and south boundaries, respectively.

Popular tradition credits the design of this linear urban landscape to the firm of noted landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted. Extensive primary source research combined with surviving landscape elements, however, confirms that the linear park is one of several parks that were created by Baltimore City in the second half of the nineteenth century. While the existing pedestrian pathways and the size and dimensions of the late-nineteenth century public garden survive, the overall design integrity of the urban space has been affected by physical changes, including selective redesign, and maintenance over time. The current appearance of the squares reflects mid-to-late-twentieth century redesigns with selected elements from earlier periods.

Broadway is a wide dual artery in Baltimore City that extends north to south between North Avenue and the neighborhood of Fell's Point. The street follows the natural topography of the area and gently rises and falls as it extends north. The overall design of the existing squares comprises elements that reflect the progressive improvements undertaken by Baltimore City from 1881 to the present. The earlier designed landscape is most notable in elements of the existing size of the squares and the layout of the sidewalks; however, early paving materials do not survive nor do historic plant materials.

Several of the squares were redesigned during the twentieth century to reflect then current trends in urban landscape architecture. These projects often accompanied infrastructure improvements or major building projects on adjoining blocks.

Generally, the blocks comprising the Broadway Squares currently are minimally landscaped. Sparse grass, deciduous trees of various ages and sizes, and an occasional shrub comprise existing plant materials. Modern electric street lights of period reproduction and contemporary design have replaced the original gas fixtures; a limited number of park benches comprise the primary street furniture. Modern street lights generally are concentrated south of Johns Hopkins Hospital.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 1

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Concrete walks evocative of the late-nineteenth century walkway pattern define the blocks. Sidewalks are poured concrete accented by brick pavers. A wide central north-south walkway bisects each block. This primary axis intersects with secondary transverse sidewalks located at the north and south ends of each block. The regular grids created by the paving pattern frequently are relieved by a geometric overlay of small central plazas, primarily circles, which serve as the visual focus of the component squares. Early plans and historic views suggest that these small plazas were occupied by large urns and further reinforced by formal symmetrical gardens dominated by flowering low scale plant materials.

The squares north of Johns Hopkins Hospital exhibit a high degree of uniformity in design. Minor differences were noted in the placement, size, and age of the trees and in the placement, type, and size of the lampposts. The most highly designed blocks front the Johns Hopkins medical complex. The blocks between Monument Street and Jefferson Street have landscaped planting beds with shrubs. Ornamental metal fencing and brick pavers create interest. A subway station also is located on this block. The blocks south of the hospital complex are simpler in design. The southernmost blocks, located between Fayette Street and Baltimore Street, also are elaborate. The blocks between Fayette Street and Baltimore Street have wood benches, and incorporate brick in the paving materials, planting beds, and seat walls.

Four of the Broadway Squares include memorials. These squares include a memorial to Ralph J. Young, M.D., José Martí, Thomas Wildey, and Ferdinand Latrobe in the blocks between Biddle Street and Chase Street, Orleans Street and Fayette Street, Fayette Street and Fairmount Avenue, and Fairmount Avenue and Baltimore Street, respectively. The Wildey and Latrobe monuments are contributing objects to the Broadway Squares. Site inspection suggests that the Young and Martí monuments were installed during the late-twentieth century.

The Broadway Squares extend for seventeen blocks. Gay Street (i.e. Bel Air Avenue) divides the block between Biddle Street and Chase Street; the square between these two streets is counted as one square rather than two. The seventeen Broadway Squares comprise a total of 7.5 acres.

### **Design Overview**

The Broadway Squares were one of several public greenspaces created by Baltimore City during the mid-nineteenth century. These greenspaces included large public parks such as Patterson Park and Druid Hill Park as well as "parked streets" such as Mt. Vernon and Washington Place, Eutaw Place, Fulton Avenue, Mount Royal, Park Place, Taney Place, and Wilkens Avenue. Although nothing survives from the 1850s design, archival sources provide cursory descriptions of the squares. According to the archival record, the



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City

### Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

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squares appear to have been constructed by 1858. A contemporary account described the squares as “handsome plats, ornamented with trees and shrubbery” (Gobright 1858:91). Iron fences surrounded the squares. The squares were enlarged and the iron fencing removed after the Mayor and City Council adopted a resolution in 1878.

In a subsequent resolution, the Mayor and City Council resolved to appropriate \$1,500 to improve the Broadway Squares (Baltimore City Resolution 150 1880:84). Redesign of the squares was complete by 1881. Contemporary newspaper accounts provided detailed descriptions of the newly redesigned squares. Late-nineteenth century photographs supported the newspaper descriptions. The squares featured serpentine walks, iron urns, and gas lamps (*Baltimore Sun* 1881a:5). Plant materials included shade trees, roses, and geraniums (*Baltimore Sun* 1881a:5). The Broadway Squares were redesigned in the Victorian-era landscape idiom, which was popular at the time. The formal, public landscape was defined by symmetry, geometry, and an axial emphasis.

A detailed, block-by-block map of the squares was developed in 1912. The map provides information on the size, location, and type of trees, and the placement of flowers and shrubs for all the squares, including the square located between Ashland Street and Madison Street. Three symmetrically placed geometric forms define the block between Ashland Street and Madison Street. Historic photographs suggest that the geometric forms featured large urns. Shrubs were located around the geometric forms. Rectangular flowerbeds were located at the north and south ends of the square. Trees ranged in size from three inches in diameter to fourteen inches in diameter. Tree species included maples and poplars.

Archival research suggests that the squares remained relatively unchanged between ca. 1880 and ca. 1930. Historic photographs dating from the 1930s of the Broadway Squares looking south from North Avenue depict squares that are devoid of ornamentation and plantings. All plant materials including flowers and trees, and ornamental urns were removed. A modified pedestrian circulation system and the grass were all that remained. The squares in the vicinity of Johns Hopkins Hospital appeared to retain some of their planting beds and their circulation system.

The Broadway Squares underwent another period of modification during the late-twentieth century. Redevelopment plans in the 1960s and 1980s altered the appearance of some of the squares. The two squares between Monument Street and Orleans Street were redesigned as a result of an anonymous donation. Prior to the improvements, the squares were in a state of deterioration. Few trees and shrubs remained and the grass and walkways were in poor condition. New trees, shrubs, flowerbeds, and a fountain were installed. The circulation system was altered when the geometric patterns were removed, and sharp, angular sidewalks were installed. The sidewalks were no longer centered; rather they were asymmetrically placed down the length of the squares. Another anonymous

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 3

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donation resulted in the redesign of the squares between Monument Street and Gay Street. The four squares between Monument Street and Gay Street were executed in a design that was stylistically different from the squares immediately to the south (Monument Street to Orleans Street). Improvements included the construction of winding, serpentine walks, small plazas with benches, and special plantings (*Baltimore Sun* 1969). Nothing remains of these late-1960s modifications.

The blocks between Monument Street and Jefferson Street were redesigned during the mid-1990s when the subway station was built (Fulton, personal communication 2006). Improvements included the installation of new paving and plant material, and the construction of a subway station.

The southernmost blocks located between Fayette Street and Baltimore Street also were altered during the mid-to-late-twentieth century. The Victorian-era design was removed when benches and brick seat walls and paving were installed. Terraced brick planting beds were constructed at the south end of the square located between Fairmount Avenue and Baltimore Street. The block between Fayette Street and Fairmount Avenue was landscaped in 1967 when the Wildey Monument was cleaned. It is unclear if the existing appearance of the squares between Fayette Street and Baltimore Street were made at the time of the 1967 improvements or at a later date. The two redesigned squares serve as a gateway to the Washington Hill neighborhood.

Currently, the squares from North Avenue to Ashland Street exhibit simplified versions of the Victorian-era design. A central concrete sidewalk running north to south divides the squares. Circles executed in brick generally are centered in the squares. The State of Maryland is in the process of making sewer improvements to the squares located between North Avenue and Oliver Street. The work includes the installation of new pipeline.

### **Detailed Description**

The descriptions of the squares follow Broadway south from North Avenue to Baltimore Street. Generally, the Broadway Squares are described collectively because many of the squares exhibit a high degree of similarity. To avoid redundancy, features that are common among all the squares, particularly those squares between North Avenue and Chase Street, will be described once. Only those squares with distinct differences are described in greater detail.

#### Between North Avenue and Chase Street

A poured-concrete path running in a north-south direction bisects the squares between North Avenue and Ashland Avenue. A path running in an east/west direction is located at the north and south end of each block. Decorative paving consists of circles completed

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 4

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in brick and poured concrete. The location of the circles varies; however, many of the circles are centered in the squares. Historic-type lampposts generally are located in the decorative circles. Trees are planted and additional historic lampposts are installed in different locations depending on the block. Typically, the lampposts alternate different sides of the sidewalks.

Minor differences were noted among the blocks. A poured-concrete planter is located on the southeast corner of the square located between North Avenue and Lafayette Avenue. A mature tree and shrubs are located in the planter. A decorative planter with a mature tree is located in the southeast corner of the square located between Lafayette Avenue and Lanvale Street. An irregularly shaped planter is located in the northwest corner of the square between Lanvale Street and Federal Street. The planter contains overgrown shrubs. A poured-concrete planter also is located in the southwest corner of the square. The planter contains a mound of dirt and grass. A dirt-filled, poured-concrete planter is located in the southwest corner of the square between Federal Street and Oliver Street. Elevated train tracks bisect the south end of the square between Oliver Street and Hoffman Street.

The block between Biddle Street and Chase Street features a slightly curving poured-concrete sidewalk located in the north half of the square. A brick circle is located at the bend in the sidewalk. The circle contains a metal plaque set in poured concrete. The plaque reads "In Memory of Ralph J. Young, M.D. 1893-1968." The poured-concrete sidewalk straightens towards Chase Street. The central sidewalk in the square between Eager Street and Ashland Avenue has a slight curve in the south half of the square. Two large, at-grade metal grates are located in the square, at the curve in the sidewalk.

### Between Ashland Avenue and Madison Street

A gravel and concrete path is located at the south end of the squares. A prefabricated metal construction trailer dominates the block; three dumpsters also are located on the block. A chicken-wire fence encloses the entire lot. Young trees are planted along the east and west sides of the square. Four historic-type lampposts also are located on the block. The lampposts on this block are taller than the lampposts located on the blocks to the north.

### Between Madison Street and Monument Street

A poured-concrete sidewalk extends down the center of the square. Poured-concrete sidewalks also are located at the north and south ends of the square. Saplings are planted on both sides of the square. Modern street lights are located on both sides of the square. A large at-grade metal grate centrally located in the block dominates the square.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 5

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### Between Monument Street and Jefferson Street

The squares located in front of the Johns Hopkins Hospital are some of the most decorative squares along Broadway. The block also contains a subway station constructed in ca. 1995. A brick crosswalk is located at McElderry Street. At one time, McElderry Street continued through the hospital complex. A poured-concrete sidewalk runs down the center of the square. Modern lampposts line both sides of the square. Three six-inch-tall, stone curbs constructed in a circle are located on the block. Two of the circular curbs surround large metal grates and vents. Decorative metal fencing is located at the south end of the block. Decorative concrete pavers laid in a diamond pattern are located inside the fenced area. Shrubs are planted along the fencing. A glass pyramid resting on a decorative concrete base provides light to the subway platform below.

The subway station is located south of the brick crosswalk. The subway station is a glass and masonry building that terminates in a clipped gable roof sheathed in standing-seam metal. Three-quarter-round, engaged columns define the elevations. Wall materials consist of plate glass windows. The building rests on a masonry base consisting of brick piers and granite corner blocks. An elevator, located northeast of the subway station, is housed in a glass and masonry building similar in design to the subway station. A circular vent surrounded by a six-inch-tall, stone curb is located south of the station. The metal fence encloses the subway station, elevator, and metal grate. A poured-concrete sidewalk is centered in the block south of the subway station. An additional grate is located at the southern end of the block, near the intersection with Jefferson Street.

### Between Jefferson Street and Orleans Street

A traffic circle is located between Jefferson and Orleans Street. A poured-concrete sidewalk runs down the center of the square. A poured-concrete sidewalk running east to west also is located at the north and south ends of the block. Young trees and modern lampposts are located on both sides of the path.

### Between Orleans Street and Fayette Street

A poured-concrete sidewalk runs down the center of the square. A poured-concrete sidewalk running east to west also is located at the north and south ends of the block. Young trees are located on both sides of the path. A vehicle turn-around divides the square in half. Bricks laid in a circular pattern are centered in each half of the block. A circular brick planter is centered in each circular path. Each planter contains an historic-type lamppost. A monument to José Martí (1853-1895) is located at the southern end of the block, near the intersection with Fayette Street. The monument is set in brick pavers inscribed with names. The granite bust of José Martí rests on a granite pedestal.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 6

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### Between Fayette Street and Fairmount Avenue

Stylistically, the squares south of Fayette Street are more decorative than the squares north of Fayette Street. A poured-concrete sidewalk runs down the center of the square. A poured-concrete sidewalk running east to west also is located at the north and south ends of the block. A sign reading "Welcome to Historic Washington Hill" is located within the walled section of the square. Young and mature trees are located on both sides of the sidewalk. A monument to Thomas Wildey is centered in the block. Bare shrubs are planted on both sides of the sidewalk south of the Wildey monument. Brick walls approximately two-and-a-half-feet tall are located at the north and south ends of the block and north and south of the Wildey monument. Brick pavers in a basket-weave pattern are located inside the brick walls. Wood benches rest against the brick walls. Planting beds are located in each corner of the partially walled-in section of the south end of the block. No lampposts are located on this square.

The stone monument to Thomas Wildey is centered in the block. Poured-concrete round planters are located at the base of the monument. The monument consists of a square base with metal plaques located on each side of the base. A fluted column rises from the base, on top of which is a statue of a woman with two babies.

### Between Fairmount Avenue and Baltimore Street

The square located between Fairmount Avenue and Baltimore Street is similar in design to the block immediately to the north. Brick walls are located at the north and south ends of the block. Dirt planting beds are located inside each wall. Brick pavers laid in a basket weave pattern are located inside the brick walls. A poured-concrete sidewalk runs down the center of the block. Young and mature trees are located at the north end of the block. A monument to Ferdinand Claiborne Latrobe is located at the southern end of the block. Steps from the north lead to the monument. The monument consists of a statue of Latrobe that sits atop a carved stone base with a stone pylon behind the statue. A brick seat wall is located north of the monument. The area around the Latrobe monument has wood benches, brick pavers in a circular pattern with a poured-concrete border, and trees.

As Broadway continues downhill, a change in grade along this block required the construction of low retaining walls with planting beds. Wood benches and a sign reading, "Welcome to Historic Washington Hill" are located at the south end of the block. No lampposts are located on this square.

### South of Baltimore Street

The squares south of Baltimore Street are narrower than the squares north of Baltimore Street. They are minimally landscaped with grass planted down the center of the block and brick sidewalks at each side of the squares. Parallel parking abuts the squares.



## 8. Significance

Inventory No. B-5138

| Period  | Areas of Significance                       | Check and justify below  |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture        | <input type="checkbox"/> economics                               | <input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine        | <input type="checkbox"/> performing arts                                 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology         | <input type="checkbox"/> education                               | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy                                      |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture       | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering                             | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government                             |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> art                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment/<br>recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2000-                | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce           | <input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage                         | <input type="checkbox"/> law                    | <input type="checkbox"/> science   |  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> communications     | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/<br>settlement              | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> social history                                  |  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning |  | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime history       | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation                                  |  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation       |  | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: <u>landscape architecture</u> |  |

|                           |  |                          |         |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------|
| <b>Specific dates</b>     | 1880 – 1930                            | <b>Architect/Builder</b> | Unknown |
| <b>Construction dates</b> | ca. 1858, ca. 1881, ca. 1965, ca. 1995 |                          |         |

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register      ☐ Maryland Register      ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

### Summary

The Broadway Squares are a linear landscape of median parks. Land for the squares was acquired by Baltimore City during the mid-nineteenth century. The squares were constructed by 1858 and were redesigned ca. 1881. The ca. 1881 design for the squares represented Victorian-era landscape principles. The squares were designed and built as the city was expanding north. Although primarily focused on the creation and maintenance of Druid Hill Park and Patterson Park, Baltimore City's Public Park Commission was responsible for maintenance of the Broadway Squares.

The acquisition and development of the squares coincided with the city's northward expansion. Broadway was a major dual artery, and the squares were intended to relieve the density of the city and provide formal greenspace. The squares were constructed by 1858. Few details on the original design are available in the archival record; the original design is no longer extant. However, evidence suggests that the squares originally were surrounded by iron fencing. The squares were enlarged and the fencing was removed after 1878. The squares were redesigned in 1881. The redesigned squares incorporated elements of Victorian-period landscape principles and included primary walks and cross paths; low-scale geometric planting beds; deciduous trees; vibrantly colored plant materials; and street furniture, such as street lamps and urns.

After 1860, management of the Broadway Squares was under the authority of the Public Park Commission. Therefore, a brief history of the commission is provided to put the development and evolution of the Broadway Squares in context. Specific details of the evolution of the Broadway Squares were gleaned from the official records of this commission and its subsequent reorganizations. An overview history of Broadway follows the discussion on the Public Park Commission. The overview history summarizes the physical development of the street "Broadway" and provides background on the creation of the Broadway Squares. A detailed history of the creation, evolution, and design of the Broadway Squares follows the history of Broadway. A summary of Victorian-era landscape design follows the history of the Broadway Squares, and explores design principles popular at the end of the nineteenth century. A basic understanding of Victorian-era landscape design provides a framework for understanding the 1881 design of the squares. Section 8 concludes with a discussion on the attribution of the design of the squares.



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

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### History of the Development and Evolution of the Public Park Commission

Resolution 227 approved by the Mayor on 4 June 1860 empowered the Mayor to create a commission to select sites and to purchase land for public parks.<sup>1</sup> The commission consisted of the Mayor and four members appointed by the Mayor. One-fifth of the revenue generated from the Passenger Railway Company was dedicated to purchasing land for parks (Baltimore City 1869:7).

The Public Park Commission managed large, landscaped open spaces such as Druid Hill Park and Patterson Park, in addition to smaller squares including the Broadway Squares, Eutaw Place, and Mount Royal. City parks and public squares were organized along geographic lines for management purposes. Each park fell under a specific division within the management structure. The Broadway Squares were placed in the Patterson Division for management and administrative purposes.

A park fund was established from revenue derived from the city passenger railways. The park fund was used for maintenance expenses for Druid Hill and Patterson parks. All other city parks and squares under the control of the Park Commission were funded through annual special appropriations made by the Mayor and the City Council, which were used for improvements and maintenance (Public Park Commission 1896:15). In March 1891, the Mayor and City Council approved Ordinance 14, which stipulated that parks and squares under the control of the Park Commission or the Special Commissioners were to be funded through the park fund. In fiscal year ending 1892, \$5,579 was expended on the Broadway Squares (Public Park Commission 1892:1144).

A new charter for Baltimore City, enacted in 1898 and amended in 1900 and 1902, authorized the Mayor and City Council to "establish, maintain, control and regulate parks or squares in the City of Baltimore for the recreation and benefit of its citizens," and created the Department of Public Parks and Squares (Board of Park Commissioners 1905:111). The new department was headed by the Board of Park Commissioners who retained the rights, privileges, and authority granted to the old Public Park Commission. The new Board of Public Park Commissioners began its duties on 1 March 1900.

The five-member commission appointed by the Mayor was responsible for all parks and squares "belonging to, controlled by, or in the custody of" the Mayor and City Council (Public Park Commission 1901:79). Duties and powers of the Board of Park Commissioners included developing rules and regulations for governing parks and squares; regulating the speed of vehicles and equestrians within one mile of and inside of city parks and squares; policing the parks; and, creating a zoo (Public Park Commission 1901:79-80).

Standing Rules for the Board of Public Commissioners were in force as of 31 December 1900. The President of the Board of Park Commissioners undertook all executive duties, including signing payroll checks, appointing standing committees, and preparing annual reports for the Mayor and City Council. The President of the board appointed the following Standing Committees: Committee on Finance, Committee on Supplies, Committee

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<sup>1</sup> The name of the commission responsible for public parks in Baltimore City repeatedly changed. The commission began as the Park Commission and became the Public Park Commission. Today, the Board of Recreation and Parks oversees Baltimore City's Department of Recreation and Parks. The commission was the Public

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

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on Improvements, Executive Committee, and committees of two each on Druid Hill Park, Clifton Park, Patterson Park, Carroll Park, and Riverside Park. Each committee consisted of two members. The Committee on Improvements was to "consider all proposals for permanent improvements in any park" (Public Park Commission 1901:76). When necessary, the Committee on Improvements advertised for bids and awarded the contract to the lowest bidder for projects requiring outside contractors. For projects to be completed in-house by park employees, the Committee on Improvements "gave directions to the superintendent" (Public Park Commission 1901:76).

In 1947, the department governing public parks was reorganized as a result of the new city charter that was adopted. The new charter abolished the Department of Parks and Squares, the Department of Recreation, and the Department of Music together with their management boards (Department of Recreation and Parks 1947:1). One new Department of Parks, Recreation, and Music replaced the three separate departments. One new board was created to govern the department. Three new bureaus were created within the new department: the Bureau of Recreation, the Bureau of Parks, and the Bureau of Music (Department of Recreation and Parks 1947:1).

### History of the Development of Broadway

The development of the squares coincided with the general evolution of Broadway. Urbanization of this area of northeast Baltimore began in the late-nineteenth century and with the opening of the street named Broadway. In 1816, 13.2 square miles of rural land were annexed into the City of Baltimore, tripling the city's acreage (Olson 1980:56; Cox 1986). The new city boundaries were fixed at North Avenue on the north and at East Avenue, currently Ellwood Avenue, on the east. In 1816, the Baltimore City Board of Commissioners hired engineer-surveyor Thomas H. Poppleton to prepare a plan for Baltimore City in its entirety. Poppleton was tasked with preparing a street plan for the newly annexed land, assigning street names, and delineating new wards for the city (Cox 1986:16). Throughout the northeast corner of the new territory, Poppleton imposed a grid street pattern created by north-south and east-west streets. Poppleton extended the streets of Fells Point northward to North Avenue. The north-south streets were depicted on his 1822 map in two widths, a wide major street (typically 70 ft wide) with a narrow street or alley (typically 20 ft wide) dividing the blocks along a north-south orientation. The widest streets were Broadway and North Avenue. Bel Air Avenue (i.e., Gay Street) was the only pre-existing road through the area.<sup>2</sup> Bel Air Avenue became Gay Street by 1878 (Commissioners for Opening Streets 1878:761). Poppleton retained its existing path; this resulted in a major diagonal artery that spliced several rectangular blocks, forming triangular blocks on either side of Broadway (Grandine et al. 2002).

The Baltimore City Council enacted a series of ordinances and adopted a number of resolutions concerning the development of Broadway.<sup>3</sup> City Council action included the authorization of physical improvements to the street as well as the creation of special commissions established to address overall development of the city. Baltimore City Council action regarding Broadway began as early as 1845 when an ordinance was enacted that

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Park Commission for most of its history, including the late-nineteenth century, the period during which the Broadway Squares were improved. Unless otherwise noted, this report will use the Public Park Commission when referring to the body having oversight of the public parks in Baltimore City.

<sup>2</sup> Historic documents used a variety of spellings for Bel Air Avenue, including Belle Air, Bel-Air, and Belair. For consistency, Bel Air will be used in this report.

<sup>3</sup> Typically, ordinances are permanent laws; resolutions are non-bidding statements of the opinion of a legislative body. The Mayor and City Council adopted resolutions authorizing and directing certain action regarding the Broadway Squares. The same language was used when the Mayor and City Council passed ordinances. It is unclear whether the distinction between ordinances and resolutions existed during the mid- and late-nineteenth century.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 3

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changed the name of Market Street in Fell's Point to Broadway. The next important ordinance passed by the City Council was in April 1850, when the City Council authorized the appointment of three commissioners for opening streets. Enactment of the ordinance facilitated the extension of Broadway in accordance with the 1822 Poppleton Plan for Baltimore. The commissioners, who were appointed annually, were empowered to hire surveyors and other appropriate staff to assist in fulfilling the commissioners' responsibilities.

The Mayor and City Council authorized the opening and condemning of Broadway from Baltimore Street to Bel Air Avenue. The newly extended Broadway was to be the same width as the existing street below Baltimore Street as stipulated in Ordinance 29 approved on 2 May 1851 (Baltimore City Ordinance 29 1851:28). Broadway between Baltimore Street and Bel Air Avenue was paved after the Mayor and City Council approved Ordinance 54 on 31 May 1853. The ordinance specified the width of the street and the sidewalk. The street was to be paved 27 feet on each side of the street, with gravel placed 50 feet down its center (Baltimore City Ordinance 54 1853:51). The ordinance stipulated that the sidewalk be 16 feet, 6 inches (Baltimore City Ordinance 54 1853:51).

An ordinance was enacted in April 1854 to construct a bridge over Harford Run at Broadway. In addition, Broadway between Monument Street and Bel Air Avenue was to be graded, paved, and curbed (Baltimore City Ordinance 12 1854:26). Improvements were to be completed in the same manner as those improvements made to Broadway between Monument Street and Baltimore Street.

Later that year, the Mayor and City Council enacted an ordinance to pave, repave, and curb Broadway from Baltimore Street to Monument Street. The same ordinance directed that squares be created between Baltimore Street and Monument Street (Baltimore City Ordinance 34 1854:41). The sidewalk was to be 16.5 feet. The newly created squares were to be curbed and divided into three equal parts (Baltimore City Ordinance 34 1854:41). A third ordinance enacted in 1854 directed the City Commissioner to widen Broadway, as condemned by the Commissioners, between Baltimore Street and Bel Air Avenue to 138 feet, 8 inches (Baltimore City Ordinance 88 1854:155). A resolution adopted in 1857 authorized the replacement and repair of the tree boxes on Broadway (Baltimore City Resolution 120 1857:153). The resolution did not specify where on Broadway the tree boxes were located. Resolution 23 of 9 December 1858 authorized the replanting of shade trees along Broadway between Baltimore Street and Bel Air Avenue. A sum of \$300 was authorized to be spent for the effort (Baltimore City Resolution 23 1859:28).

Until the last half of the nineteenth century, the land along Broadway north of Baltimore Street was primarily rural. Poppleton's plan for the development of the northeast corner of the city essentially remained intact when residential development in the area began after 1870. The extent of development in this area of the city was depicted on the E. Sachse & Company bird's-eye view published in 1870. The major north-south and east-west streets were not yet opened. Few residential buildings were depicted in the Sachse view. Approximately fourteen rowhouses were constructed along the east side of Broadway Avenue between Monument Street and Bel Air Avenue; less than ten rowhouses occupied the south side of Bel Air Avenue near its intersection with Biddle Street (Sachse 1870; Grandine et al. 2002).

The extension of Broadway north of Bel Air Avenue occurred during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. The Commissioners for Opening Streets were authorized by an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council to condemn and open Broadway from Bel Air Avenue to North Boundary

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City

### Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

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(i.e. North Avenue) (Baltimore City Ordinance 154 1877:155). The Commissioners for Opening Streets reported the opening of Broadway from Gay Street (by this point the name had changed from Bel Air Avenue) to North Avenue in its 1878 annual report (Commissioners for Opening Streets 1878:761).

Rowhouses were constructed along Broadway during the late-nineteenth century after other areas in the city boundaries were developed. By the 1870s, residential development had reached Madison Square. Rowhouse construction reached Monument Street by 1870 and proceeded up Broadway to Hoffman Street. Improved and affordable transportation also played a role in opening the area to residential development (Grandine et al. 2002).

The development of Broadway typifies the broad patterns of the urban history of Baltimore City from ca. 1850 through 1955. During that time, Broadway became increasingly incorporated into the city's urban fabric as development filled up the city boundaries established in 1816. From 1870 through 1930, Broadway became increasingly residential. As a major thoroughfare, Broadway was lined with large rowhouses that exhibited elements of high-style architecture. The streets in the neighborhoods east and west of Broadway were lined primarily with rowhouses that housed working people from a variety of ethnic groups. Increased residential construction in this area of northeast Baltimore was accompanied by the construction of public schools, neighborhood churches, a branch library, and improved city services (Grandine et al. 2002).

#### History of the Broadway Squares

The creation of the Broadway Squares follows the expansion of the city northward. Beginning in the 1850s, city officials recognized the need to enhance and beautify Broadway. The Mayor and City Council passed a number of ordinances and adopted resolutions creating green space on Broadway and directing improvements. The ordinances and resolutions did not include details on the type of work to be undertaken. Improvements to the Broadway Squares were completed under the auspices of the Public Park Commission. During the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, the city allocated approximately \$5,000 a year for maintenance of the Broadway Squares.

Broadway was a "wide, bare avenue" that was "objectionable on account of its glare and dust" during the mid-nineteenth century (Board of Commissioners 1852:8). To alleviate the glare and to eliminate the dust, green space was to be created. Trees, walks, and seating were to be provided "to serve the purpose of a public park" (Board of Commissioners 1852:8). This general scheme was proposed for Broadway as well as for the newly created city boundary avenues. The Board of Commissioners Relative to the City Boundary Avenues (Board of Commissioners) was created by the Mayor and City Council to explore the most feasible method for opening the boundary avenues following the Poppleton Plan of 1822 (Board of Commissioners 1852:1). The Board of Commissioners was a body separate from the Commissioners for Opening Streets. The Board of Commissioners presented their findings in an 1852 report to the Mayor and City Council. A forty-foot carriage drive "on each side, bounded by a foot pavement of twenty feet planted with rows of trees" was recommended by the Commissioners. Cross streets at regular intervals would "prevent the squares from becoming inconvenient obstructions" to crossing from one side of the street to the other (Board of Commissioners 1852:9). This general design was proposed for the northern, western, and eastern boundary avenues.



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 5

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The city acquired the 5.7 acres for 19 Broadway Squares in 1851 at a cost of \$28,661 (Board of Park Commissioners 1905:78). Acquisition of the land in 1851 for 19 squares suggests that the City intended to create a system of parks along Broadway before the Board of Commissioners made public its recommendations. The acquisition of the land also suggests that the City intended to extend the Broadway Squares north of Bel Air Avenue as early as 1851. Broadway north of Bel Air Avenue was not opened until 1877.

The archival record does not provide a specific date for the construction of the squares. Details regarding the design and construction of the squares were not provided in the Public Park Commission *Annual Reports*. Historic maps also are vague. Historic maps, such as Sachse & Company's 1869 map, William P. Twamley's 1882 map, the 1896 City of Baltimore Topographical Survey, and Sanborn maps, clearly depict the squares; however, none of the maps provide details on their design (Sachse 1870; City of Baltimore 1896; Maryland Historical Society 1998:32).

While the archival record does not include a precise construction date, the squares appear to have been constructed by 1858. An 1858 directory described the squares north of Baltimore Street as "handsome plats, ornamented with trees and shrubbery" (Gobright 1858:91). Although the city acquired the land for the squares in 1851, authorization of the creation of the squares was granted in 1854 (Baltimore City Ordinance 34 1854:41). The authorization date and the description suggest that the squares between Baltimore Street and Bel Air Avenue were constructed between 1854 and 1858. Archival evidence suggests that the mid-nineteenth century design of the Broadway Squares was modest. Pictures of the square in front of the Church Home depict a square surrounded by iron fencing.

In 1872, the Mayor and City Council enacted an ordinance appointing a Keeper of the Public Squares on Broadway between Bel Air Avenue and Baltimore Street. His duties were to be similar to other keepers of public squares, and he was to receive an annual salary of \$300 (Baltimore City Ordinance 32 1873:41). Later that year, the Mayor and City Council passed an ordinance authorizing the appointment of three Commissioners for the Broadway Squares. The duties of the Commissioners were to be similar to Commissioners of other squares. The Broadway Commissioners served without pay (Baltimore City Ordinance 80 1873:93).

The City Council adopted a resolution to appropriate funds for curbing and improving the squares between Chew Street (Ashland Avenue) and Eager Street. The improvements were to be similar to those completed for the squares between McElderry Street and Monument Street. The resolution included an appropriation of \$3,500 to complete the work (Baltimore City Resolution 396 1874:301-302).

The Mayor and City Council adopted a resolution in 1878 authorizing the removal of the iron fencing and curbing around the Broadway Squares. The squares were enlarged at that time when the Mayor and City Council resolved to extend the squares to the street curb. The curbing and fencing were to be sold with the proceeds from the sale dedicated to the improvement "of all the squares on Broadway for the year 1879" (Baltimore City Resolution 305 1878:156). In 1880, the Mayor and City Council resolved to appropriate \$1,500 to improve the Broadway Squares (Baltimore City Resolution 150 1880:84). The redesign of the squares between Baltimore Street and Bel Air Avenue was completed by 1881. The archival record suggests that funds generated from the sale of the iron fencing were sufficient enough to completely redesign the squares.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 6

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An 18 May 1881 article in the *Baltimore Sun* provided details on the redesigned squares. The walkways were altered to alleviate the “monotonous [sic] appearance” of the squares (*Baltimore Sun* 1881a:5). New curved and serpentine walks were installed (*Baltimore Sun* 1881a:5). Two or more 7-foot tall iron urns were placed in each block. The urns were painted to look like bronze (*Baltimore Sun* 1881a:5). Plant materials included arborvitae and dwarf cedars, roses, and geraniums (*Baltimore Sun* 1881a:5). Shade trees were planted and gas lamps were installed.

Thomas Scharf also described the squares in his *History of Baltimore City and County*. Improvements included widening of the squares and the removal of the iron fencing around the southern squares. According to Scharf, “Neat and graceful walks have been laid out, large and handsome urns placed at the entrances to the various squares, and curbs and drains provided” (Scharf 1971:278-279). Trees were planted, and flower beds, coleus, shrubs, and roses were planted in the forms of anchors, Maltese crosses, and stars (Scharf 1971:279). A fountain was located between Baltimore Street and Hamstead Street (i.e. Fairmont Street) and Gay Street. The squares consisted of “Square after square of flowers, shrubbery, grassy plots, and winding walks” (Scharf 1971:279). Scharf’s description of the Broadway Squares is a verbatim account of an article that appeared on 9 July 1881 in the *Baltimore Sun* (*Baltimore Sun* 1881b:1).

Historic photographs and postcards depict squares with walks, flowering shrubs, planting beds, small grass plots, and large, ornamental urns. Gas lamps illuminated the parks. In general, straight walkways were centered in the squares. Interest was created when the walks curved at either the north or south end of each block. The curves created semi-circular or half-moon patterns. Large-scale, decorative urns were located in circles in the pavement.

Resolution 160 authorized the General Superintendent of Lamps and the Inspector and Sealer of Gas Meters to direct the Consolidated Gas Co. to erect a Seiman’s gas lamp and burner at the end of each square from Baltimore Street to Gay Street (Baltimore City Resolution 160 1883:84). A sum of \$152.50 was appropriated in 1882 and \$175 was appropriated in 1891 by resolutions of the Mayor and City Council. The funds were for the continued maintenance of the Broadway Squares (Baltimore City Resolution 8 1890:7; Baltimore City Resolution 30 1891:16).

The 1890 Sanborn map for Baltimore City depicts the squares from Baltimore Street to Bel Air Avenue. Broadway was wider between Baltimore Street and Bel Air Avenue than it was north of Bel Air Avenue and south of Baltimore Street. Even though Broadway north of Bel Air Avenue was opened in 1877, the map suggests that the squares north of Bel Air Avenue were not in place by 1890.

Improvements made to the Broadway Squares in fiscal year 1893 included \$5,263.87 for cement paving and \$662.00 for re-grading and hauling; the appropriation for fiscal year 1893 was \$8,000 (Public Park Commission 1894:51). A total of \$5,263 was spent in fiscal year 1896 (Public Park Commission 1896:963). In 1899, \$5,300 was appropriated for the Broadway Squares, but only \$4,975 was expended (Public Park Commission 1900:33, 38). The annual Public Park Commission report for fiscal year 1899 did not itemize the expenses. A total of \$4,567.55 was spent on the Broadway Squares in 1900. Expenses included payroll, supplies, and repairs, with payroll representing 75 per cent of the Broadway Squares budget (Public Park Commission 1901:71).



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City

### Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 7

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The 42<sup>nd</sup> *Annual Report* for fiscal year ending 31 December 1901 summarized improvements to the squares as a whole. The various squares were not described in detail; however, a cursory description of the Broadway Squares was provided. The reason for the brief discussion of the squares was due to the "immense amount of work [that] has been put upon these squares, but of a nature that is hard to itemize" (Board of Park Commissioners 1902:41). The Board noted that the squares including those along Broadway and Fulton Avenue were hard to maintain because of their length and because "plants and bulbs are stolen from them and grass trodden down and injured" (Board of Park Commissioners 1902:41).

"Parked streets," streets with public squares, included Mt. Vernon and Washington Place, Eutaw Place, Broadway, Fulton Avenue, Mount Royal, Park Place, Taney Place, and Wilkens Avenue. In 1902, Broadway had the greatest number of squares when compared to other parked streets in the city. In fiscal year 1902, trees were trimmed, lawns improved, and flowerbeds maintained in the public squares to the extent possible with available funds (Board of Park Commissioners 1903:25).

The *Annual Reports* include discrepancies in the number of Broadway Squares. The city acquired 5.7 acres for 19 squares in 1851 (Board of Park Commissioners 1905:78). The report for fiscal year ending 1902 identifies seventeen squares, while the 44<sup>th</sup> and 45<sup>th</sup> *Annual Reports* for fiscal years ending 31 December 1903 and 1904 identified 11 squares in Broadway comprising 3 acres. No explanation was provided for these disparities.

The 1903/1904 report stated that the fountain on the Broadway Squares between Chase Street and Ashland Avenue was in poor condition. Neighboring property owners requested that the fountain be removed. Flowers were planted in its place (Board of Park Commissioners 1905:61). The City spent \$30 in 1909 on cross walk improvements to Broadway (Board of Park Commissioners 1911:25).

A 1912 drawing is the only detailed illustration of the squares uncovered in the course of the archival research. The drawing's draftsmen were identified only by initials. The un-attributed drawing is a block-by-block plan of each square between North Avenue and Baltimore Street. A Victorian design is depicted on the drawing. Features on the drawing including central paths interrupted by large and small circles. Half-moon and semi-circular paths provide access to the north and south ends of the blocks. Planting beds, gas lampposts, and trees are indicated on the drawing. Although the drawing identifies tree species and the location of trees, planting beds, paths, and gas lampposts, shrubs and flowers were not specified. The drawing appears to be an as-built depiction of existing conditions rather than a conceptual plan for future design. By the-early twentieth century, Victorian garden design had fallen out of favor (Shull, personal communication 2006; Weishan 1999:10).

The *Fifty-Sixth Annual Report of the Board of Park Commissioners* indicated an increase in the number of acres associated with the Broadway Squares. In the 1915 report, the Broadway Squares totaled 6.9 acres; the number of squares remained at 19. No explanation for the increase in acreage was provided (Board of Park Commissioners 1915:12). The squares north of Gay Street (i.e. Bel Air Avenue) remained extant, with its grassy lawns, shrubs, and flowerbeds (*Baltimore Sun* 1927). As late as 1940, the squares ended at Baltimore Street (*Baltimore Sun* 1940). The existing squares south of Baltimore Street were constructed after 1940.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City

### Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 8

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It appears that the northernmost squares were modified during the early-twentieth century. The modifications appear to have occurred after the 1912 map was developed and before 1930. Photos from the 1930s show severely simplified designs for the squares nearest to North Avenue. All the decorative plantings, including the carpet bedding, shrubs, and trees, were removed. The half-moon and semi-circular paths at the north and south ends of the blocks had been straightened or removed. The only extant features are the sidewalks that extend down the centers of the squares and the remnants of the decorative circles. The *Annual Reports* from the period were not available.

The Broadway Squares did not warrant mention in the *Annual Reports of the Bureau of Parks* during the early 1950s. As the 1953 report states "the Patterson Division includes numerous small properties such as squares and playgrounds which require the greatest portion of the labor and expense fund assigned to this division. Thus extensive improvements are precluded unless special funds are allotted for the same in the Capital Improvement Section of the Annual Budget" (Bureau of Parks 1953:17-18). Administratively, the Broadway Squares were part of the Patterson Division. No discussion of improvements to the Broadway Squares was included in the bureau's annual report until 1957. No improvements to the squares were detailed in the annual reports between 1960 and 1964 since the number and degree of general maintenance activities in parks in the Patterson Division were too numerous for individual itemization (Department of Recreation and Parks 1960:23).

Generally, the squares in front of Johns Hopkins Hospital were improved more frequently than the other squares. In 1957, four two-legged benches were installed in the Broadway Squares in front of Johns Hopkins Hospital (Department of Recreation and Parks 1957:28). Eight additional benches were installed between Baltimore Street and Fayette Street a year later. The benches were installed at the request of the residents (Department of Recreation and Parks 1958:30). The squares in front of the hospital were re-sodded with 2,500 square feet of sod in 1959 (Department of Recreation and Parks 1959:27). In 1965, 43 trees were planted in the Broadway Squares. The annual report for the Department of Recreation and Parks did not identify species or where the trees were planted (Department of Recreation and Parks 1965:31).

Significant improvements including new landscaping and cleaning of monuments occurred to two squares during the mid-1960s. The Thomas Wildey Monument located between Fayette Street and Fairmount Avenue was cleaned and the square was re-landscaped. Work included new trees, landscaping, and paving (Department of Recreation and Parks 1967:11). Thomas Wildey is considered the American founder of an order of Odd Fellows. The Odd Fellows are a secret fraternal, charitable organization founded in England during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. The American order received its charter from Manchester Unity in 1819. The order broke from its English counterparts in 1843, when it became the Independent Order of Odd Fellows ("A Fraternal History of Marin County California – Odd Fellows (IOOF)" n.d.). The Wildey monument was designed by Edward F. Durang and dedicated in September 1865 (Scharf 1971:269, 270).

The Latrobe Monument, located between Fairmount Avenue and Baltimore Street, was cleaned by the Empire Building and Cleaning Company, Inc. completed the work on the Latrobe Monument at a cost of \$266 (Department of Recreation and Parks 1967:9). The monument was dedicated on 1 June 1914 and honored Ferdinand Latrobe, grandson of architect Benjamin Latrobe, who served seven terms as the Mayor of Baltimore. The sculpture was designed by Baltimore artists Edward Berge and J. Maxwell Miller (Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation 2000).

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 9

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Both artists were students at the Rinehart School of Sculpture, and later studied at the Académie Julien in Paris where they studied under Auguste Rodin ("Edward Henry Berge (1876-1924)" n.d.).

During the mid-1960s, an anonymous donor donated \$50,000 for improvements to the squares between Madison Street and Monument Street and Orleans Street to Baltimore Street. The donation halted plans for widening Broadway at the expense of the squares. Plans to reduce the width of the Broadway Squares were announced in 1959 (Somerville 1966). The Bureau of Highways widened Broadway south of Orleans Street during the early 1960s (Somerville 1966). The widening reduced the width of the squares between Baltimore Street and Orleans Street. Broadway between Orleans Street and Madison Street was scheduled for widening in spring 1966. The Department of Parks and Recreation decided to withhold approval of the street widening between Monument Street and Orleans Street (Somerville 1966). Because maintenance of the squares fell under the jurisdiction of the Board of Parks and Recreation, prior approval by the board was needed before further widening of Broadway could occur (Somerville 1966). By the late 1960s, no trees or shrubs remained in the southern squares, and the lawn and walkways were in poor condition (Somerville 1966).

Funds from the anonymous donor were to be used for the installation of trees, sidewalks, and a fountain. By the late 1960s the squares consisted of "deteriorated walks and barren ground" (*Baltimore Sun* 1966). Charles F. Tyson, landscape architect for the Department of Recreation and Parks, redesigned the squares. Ernest M. Carozza & Sons performed the work. The completed project was dedicated on 12 June 1967 (Department of Recreation and Parks 1967:10). Plantings included 110 trees consisting of 12 different species, 200 shrubs of differing species, and six new flowerbeds, some of which were surrounded by bluestone paving (*Baltimore Sun* 1966, Department of Recreation and Parks 1967:31). Nineteen benches were proposed. A pool and fountain were designed for the square in front of Johns Hopkins Hospital (*Baltimore Sun* 1966). The city used its own funds to improve the blocks between Orleans Street and Baltimore Street (*Baltimore Sun* 1969). In addition to major improvements to the squares between Monument Street and Orleans Street, the square north of Monument Street and the blocks between Baltimore Street and Orleans Street were re-sodded (Department of Recreation and Parks 1967:17).

Three years later the same anonymous donor donated an additional \$50,000 to improve the blocks from Monument Street to Gay Street (i.e. Bel Air Avenue). Funds from the city's Department of Housing and Community Development supplemented the donation. The project was part of a larger urban renewal project along Gay Street. Each redesigned square included "a winding walkway through the center, with 'small plazas along the way with benches and special plantings.'" These four squares were stylistically different from the southern squares redesigned three years earlier (*Baltimore Sun* 1969; Department of Housing and Community Development 1971:8). The Department of Housing and Community Development designed and contracted the work. Marcantoni & Sons was awarded the contract with a low bid of \$44,425 (Department of Recreation and Parks 1970:16). The work was completed in the 1970/1971 fiscal year.

Minor improvements were made to the squares during the early 1970s. A cover for the water display fountain located at Broadway and Gay Street was constructed (Department of Recreation and Parks 1971:7:26). The planter boxes, steps, and walks facing the main entrance to Johns Hopkins Hospital were repaired in 1972 (Department of Recreation and Parks 1973:19). The grassy areas in the blocks between Baltimore Street and Orleans Street were re-sodded in the 1973/1974 fiscal year at a cost of \$1,185 (Department of Recreation and Parks 1974:22).

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 10

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Several of the squares were modified during the late-twentieth century. The squares in front of Johns Hopkins Hospital and immediately to the south were redesigned during the mid-1990s when a subway station was built (Fulton, personal communication 2006). The current appearance of the squares between Fayette Street and Baltimore Street is different from the design of the squares north of Johns Hopkins Hospital. The squares between Fayette Street and Baltimore Street have benches and brick seat walls and paving. The squares between Fayette Street and Baltimore Street retain only the central sidewalks from the Victorian-era design. The block between Fayette Street and Fairmount Avenue was landscaped in 1967 when the Wildey Monument was cleaned. The archival record is unclear if the current landscape design was implemented in 1967 or later.

Currently, the squares from North Avenue to Ashland Street recall the simplified modifications of the squares made during the early-twentieth century. A central concrete sidewalk running north to south divides the squares. Simplified decorative circles in the sidewalks were created.

### Victorian-Era Landscape Design

Generally, Victorian-era landscapes were less symmetrical than those gardens of earlier periods, especially gardens from the Colonial period (Weishan 1999:9). Curvilinear paths and border edges were common (Weishan 1999:9). Stone frequently was used for walks and curbs. Elements of Victorian-era landscape design included lawns, exotic trees, shrubs, fencing, ornaments, seating, flowers, and vines. Shrubs were used to delineate paths. Specimen shrubs were particularly popular (Weishan 1999:10). Mixing different species of shrubs was common. Ornamental features, such as large-scale urns, sculpture, fountains, sundials, and birdbaths, were fashionable.

Carpet bedding was common for planting flowers. Carpet bedding consisted of planting flowers of uniform height in patterns to give the appearance of a carpet. Planting beds were designed in a number of shapes and forms in raised three-dimensional patterns (Weishan 1999:9). Brilliant, vibrant, and variegated plantings, which frequently were changed, were popular. Foliage plants used for carpet bedding included coleus, *Alternanthera* (red was best), golden feather feverfew, dusty miller, and geraniums with variegated leaves (Adams 2004:209). The carpet beds could be changed as frequently as three to four times a season (Weishan 1999:151). Bulbs were planted in early spring. Early-spring annuals such as pansies replaced the bulbs. Heat-tolerant annuals replaced the pansies, to be replaced with cold-tolerant plants in fall (Weishan 1999:151). Carpet bedding with vibrant flowers, and particularly foliage, provided a contrast to the green lawns. For nearly thirty years during the late-nineteenth and the early-twentieth centuries, a "joyful riot of color, form, and shape reigned" (Weishan 1999:10).

The desire for picturesque and whimsical garden design rapidly declined after 1900, as gardeners returned to more classical, formalized styles (Weishan 1999:10). The high maintenance associated with frequently changing plant material and deadheading plants contributed to the decline in popularity of Victorian-era gardens (Weishan 1990:152; Adams 2004:209). The writings of English gardeners William Robinson and Gertrude Jekyll also contributed to the decline in popularity of carpet bedding (Adams 2004:100).



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 11

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### Olmsted Association with the Broadway Squares

Local tradition maintains that the Broadway Squares were designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. Detailed archival research to verify this attribution was conducted into the work of Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., his firm, and the successor firm of Olmsted Brothers established by his sons, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. and John Charles Olmsted. Various generations of the Olmsted firm undertook work in Baltimore during the late-nineteenth through the mid-twentieth centuries. Archival research did not uncover a connection between Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. and the Broadway Squares.

In 1902, the Municipal Art Society, an organization established by prominent Baltimore citizens to promote art, hired the Olmsted Brothers to develop a park system for the Baltimore metropolitan region (Olmsted Brothers 1904). The Olmsted Brothers recommendations were presented in the 1904 *Report upon the Development of Public Grounds for Greater Baltimore*. Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. paid a site visit to Baltimore in March 1904 during the course of preparing the firm's report. In his field notes from his March visit, Olmsted described the Broadway Squares.

I observed that the arrangement of the central path and the beds and objects which interrupt it is not only rather monotonous, but it is inconvenient. The corners of the beds are often so sharp as to cause short-cutting. The cement of which the paths are formed was poorly laid and is going gradually to pieces. I recommend that a new plan for the path system be adopted covering the whole of Broadway... There are a great many flower beds along Broadway, and it is difficult to police them.... The people do get a good deal of pleasure out of the flowers and they want them and there would be an outcry if they were removed, and the Park Board does not expect to do away with them, certainly not at once. I thought that perhaps some re-arrangement of the plan of the parking and the more judicious placing of flowers might make it less troublesome to maintain it. Fences have not been put up to protect the beds, probably because the extensive use of flower beds has not been in vogue long, and the cost and difficulty of maintenance has not made itself felt as yet (Olmsted 1904).

The report identified land in and around the city appropriate for development as public parks. The designs for the proposed parks were not part of the report. The 1904 report did not mention the Broadway Squares, other than to identify their existence on a map of extant and planned parks. No further discussion on the Broadway Squares was included in the report. Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.'s 1904 site visit and the lack of mention in the 1904 report suggests that the Broadway Squares were neither designed by an Olmsted firm during the late-nineteenth century nor redesigned by an Olmsted firm during the early-twentieth century.

It appears that Olmsted's prediction regarding the redesign of the squares was apt. The 1912 drawing of the Broadway Squares prepared by the city is Victorian in design, signifying that a redesign of the squares had not occurred. Indeed, by the time of Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.'s visit to Baltimore in 1904, Victorian-era landscaping was on the wane. It is unlikely that the Olmsteds would have developed a landscape plan in a style that rapidly was falling out of vogue, and atypical of the firm's picturesque and naturalistic designs.

Accounts in local newspapers and biographies on the Olmsteds do not list the Broadway Squares among the work completed by the firm. Contemporary newspaper accounts also fail to mention an Olmsted firm in the original design and the ca. 1881 redesign of the squares. In fact, contemporary accounts fail to credit any designers of the squares.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 12

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It also has been suggested that an Olmsted firm designed the grounds of Johns Hopkins Hospital and may have commented on the Broadway Squares when developing the landscape plan for the hospital. The hospital formally opened on 7 May 1889. The hospital was established through a bequest of prominent Baltimore merchant and banker, Johns Hopkins. Construction of the hospital, located on 14.5 acres on Broadway between Monument Street and Jefferson Street, began in June 1877 and was completed twelve years later. John R. Niernsee of Niernsee and Neilson and the Boston firm Cabot and Chandler were the architects. John Niernsee was a prominent Baltimore architect, designing numerous buildings around the country (Scharf 1971:747).

Although the Olmsted Brothers designed the campus of Johns Hopkins University, the firm did not develop a landscape design for the hospital. Landscape architect and engineer E. W. Bowditch of Boston, Massachusetts, designed the hospital grounds. Bowditch also designed communities in Tuxedo Park, New York; Cleveland Heights and Euclid Heights, Ohio; and the Commercial Fisheries Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

The Broadway Squares were constructed by 1858, and were redesigned in 1881 in the Victorian-era landscape idiom. Although the squares remained relatively unaltered between the 1880s and the 1930s, the squares underwent numerous redesigns during the late-twentieth century. A central walkway, geometric forms, large urns, fountains, and colorful and vibrant plant material characterized the 1881 design. By the early-twentieth century, Victorian-era landscape design was no longer fashionable. Much of the Victorian-era plant material and landscape features were removed by the mid-twentieth century. The two southernmost squares and the squares in the vicinity of Johns Hopkins Hospital were redesigned during the mid- and late-1960s. The squares in front of the hospital were redesigned again during the 1990s. Even though it was suggested that the Olmsted firm may have designed the squares, archival research was unable to identify the landscape architect for the ca. 1881 redesign. Furthermore, the squares did not undergo a major redesign in the early twentieth century to which the Olmsteds could have contributed. Today, the central path that divides each of the squares is all that remains of the late-nineteenth century design.



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. B-5138

See attached continuation sheet.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 7.5 acres  
Acreage of historical setting 7.5 acres  
Quadrangle name Baltimore East

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The Broadway Squares comprise the central median in Broadway between North Avenue and Baltimore Street.

## 11. Form Prepared by

|                 |   |           |               |
|-----------------|---|-----------|---------------|
| name/title      | Kirsten Peeler, Project Manager           |           |               |
| organization    | R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. | date      | 23 March 2007 |
| street & number | 241 East Fourth Street, Suite 100         | telephone | 301.694.0428  |
| city or town    | Frederick                                 | state     | MD            |

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

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### Works Cited

Research was conducted at a number of repositories including Enoch Pratt Free Library, the Maryland Historical Society, the Friends of Maryland's Olmsted Parks & Landscapes, the Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives of Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, and the Baltimore City Department of Legislative Reference. Historic photographs and postcards are available in the collections of the Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, the Enoch Pratt Free Library, and Cylburn Arboretum, and the on-line collections of the Baltimore Museum of Industry. In addition, publications and vertical files available at the Enoch Pratt Free Library and the Maryland Historical Society provided historic views of the squares. The archivist for the Friend's of Maryland's Olmsted Parks & Landscapes also provided historic postcards of the squares.

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# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 2

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# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 3

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# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 9 Page 4

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# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5138

Name Broadway Squares, Baltimore City  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 9 Page 5

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### Photo Log

MIHP B-5138  
Broadway Squares  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
Kirsten Peeler  
25 January 2007

1. North Avenue, looking South
2. Lanvale Street, looking South
3. Federal Street, looking South
4. Oliver Street, looking South
5. Preston Street, looking North
6. Preston Street, looking South
7. Biddle Street, looking South
8. Chase Street, looking South
9. Eager Street, looking North
10. Ashland Avenue, looking South
11. Madison Street (from Monument Street), looking North
12. Madison Street, looking North
13. Monument Street, looking South
14. Monument Street, looking South
15. McElderry Street, looking South
16. Orleans Street, looking North
17. Fayette Street, looking South
18. Fairmount Street, looking North
19. Fairmount Street, looking South
20. Baltimore Street, looking North
21. 1912 Plan of Broadway Squares (Courtesy of the Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation, Baltimore, Maryland)
22. Undated Stereoview (Courtesy of Edward Shull)
23. 1904 Postcard, (Courtesy of Cylburn Arboretum, Baltimore, Maryland)
24. 1906 Postcard, (Courtesy of Cylburn Arboretum, Baltimore, Maryland)
25. 1909 Postcard, (Courtesy of Cylburn Arboretum, Baltimore, Maryland)
26. 1913 Postcard, (Courtesy of Cylburn Arboretum, Baltimore, Maryland)
27. 1914 Postcard (Courtesy of Cylburn Arboretum, Baltimore, Maryland)
28. Undated Postcard, (Courtesy of Cylburn Arboretum, Baltimore, Maryland)



**Summary of Research Regarding an Olmsted Firm Association  
with  
the Design of the Broadway Median**

A comprehensive search of both primary and secondary sources was conducted in an effort to verify a Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., or his successor landscape architecture firm, association with the design of the Broadway Median. Research undertaken during the course of this investigation has been unable to link an Olmsted firm with the design of the Broadway Median. Records reviewed included ordinances and resolutions; Baltimore City Public Park Commission *Annual Reports* and meeting minutes; Baltimore City Council meeting minutes; correspondence of the Olmsted firms; the records of the Municipal Art Society; historic maps; historic photographs and postcards; newspaper articles; and vertical files. Archives consulted in this research effort included:

- Correspondence from the Olmsted firms archived at the Library of Congress;
- Olmsted Archives, Brookline, Massachusetts;
- Collections of the Friends of Maryland's Olmsted Parks & Landscapes;
- Johns Hopkins University;
- The Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions;
- Maryland Department, Enoch Pratt Free Library;
- Baltimore City Archives;
- The postcard collection at Cylburn Arboretum;
- The Baltimore Museum of Industry online collection;
- The Maryland Historical Society; and,
- The Department of Legislative Reference, Baltimore City.

The documents reviewed during the course of this investigation are briefly summarized below.

Correspondence from the Olmsted firms archived at the Library of Congress  
The Library of Congress retains correspondence, reports, plans, newspaper articles, photographs, drawings, and account books, among other items, constituting the business files of the Olmsted Associates firm for the period 1863 to 1971. The Library of Congress also retains the papers of the Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. All projects undertaken by the Olmsted firm were assigned a job number. The Broadway Squares, as the Broadway Median was called during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, were not assigned a job number, suggesting that the firm did not undertake the design or re-design of the square.

However, a search for Broadway in Baltimore, Maryland, led to a reference to job number 2400 – Baltimore Park System 1924-1947. Job numbers 2401 "Report to Municipal Art Society" Baltimore, Maryland, 1875-1928 and 2420 Baltimore Improvement Commission Municipal Art Society Baltimore, Maryland, 1905-1947 also were reviewed. The bulk of the material in the three projects concerns the work the Olmsted Brothers conducted for the Municipal Art Society and the development of their

1904 *Report upon the Development of Public Grounds for Greater Baltimore* and subsequent updates to the report. Material also focused on specific projects, such as the redesign of Mount Vernon Square, as well as professional consulting services on matters including the design of street lights and tree pruning schedules. Only one reference was made to the Broadway Squares. Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. prepared field notes critiquing the Broadway Squares as part of his visit to Baltimore while preparing the 1904 report.

#### Olmsted Archives, Brookline, Massachusetts

Many of the drawings prepared by the Olmsted firms are available at the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site in Brookline, Massachusetts. A search of the Olmsted Research Guide Online was conducted. The search did not yield a job number for the Broadway Squares. A search also was conducted for an Olmsted association with the design of the grounds for Johns Hopkins Hospital (job number 00611). A number of records are associated with job number 00611, the bulk of which are correspondence files relating to Johns Hopkins University. Three drawings are included in job number 00611: Illustration to Preliminary Study for the Johns Hopkins Estate, Comparison of three Common Wards proposed for the Johns Hopkins Hospital; and Suggestion for/Block Plan of the Johns Hopkins Hospital/on the/One Story Rectangular Pavilion Plan with the Main Building fronting on Broadway. These drawings did not appear to address the Broadway Squares. Subsequent archival research identified Boston landscape architect and engineer E. W. Bowditch as the designer of the hospital grounds.

#### Collections of the Friends of Maryland's Olmsted Parks & Landscapes

The archives of the Friends of Maryland's Olmsted Parks & Landscapes include drawings of Olmsted-designed landscapes in Baltimore. The collection also includes a topographical survey which includes Broadway and East Baltimore. The survey was prepared by Baltimore City in 1896. An un-attributed drawing of the Broadway Squares prepared in 1912 is included in the collection. The drawing is a block-by-block plan identifying tree species and the locations of decorative features, planting beds, and streetlamps.

#### Johns Hopkins University

The Special Collections Archivist for Manuscripts in the Special Collections at the Eisenhower Library at Johns Hopkins University was contacted. According to the manuscripts archivist, the university retains only those records related to the university. Goodwin & Associates, Inc. staff was referred to the Friends of Maryland's Olmsted Parks & Landscapes.

#### The Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions

The Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives were contacted for information on the design of the hospital grounds, and specifically for data on a possible Olmsted plan for the hospital grounds. Although the archives had limited information on the design of the hospital buildings, the collection did not have any information related to the landscape plan for the hospital. Material on the buildings included a *Description of Johns Hopkins Hospital Opened in 1889* prepared by John S. Billings, M.D. in 1890. The publication

did not discuss the design of the hospital grounds. The archives had an extensive photograph collection which included images of the blocks immediately adjacent to the hospital and aerial views of Broadway north and south of the hospital.

#### Maryland Department, Enoch Pratt Free Library

Vertical files, the card catalogue, and the photograph collection at the Maryland Department of the Enoch Pratt Free Library were reviewed. The vertical files and the card catalogue included references to newspaper articles discussing the Broadway Squares and references to the squares in monographs and pictorials. The vertical files also included images of the squares that appeared in local newspapers. Many of these articles also were available at the Maryland Historical Society. The articles failed to identify a landscape architect associated with the design of the squares. The photograph collection included five photographs of Broadway, two of which included the squares. The card catalogue also was reviewed for information on Johns Hopkins Hospital. The bulk of the material related to medicine, hospital expansion, and redevelopment plans.

#### Baltimore City Archives

Goodwin & Associates, Inc. had several telephone conversations with the archivist at the Baltimore City Archives. After conducting preliminary research, the archivist informed Goodwin & Associates, Inc. that there are gaps in the archival collection. The archives do not have all the years of the Public Park Commission meeting minutes; meeting minutes for 1879-1882, the period during which the squares were redesigned, are not available. In addition, the meeting minutes of the Public Park Commission and the Mayor's minutes are not indexed, making research difficult. The archivist sampled some of the Public Park Commission meeting minutes. The minutes were short and did not provide details. The archives do not retain information such as employee and personnel records, financial statements, expenses, or bills that would be useful in identifying the draftsman of the 1912 plan and ascertaining if the Olmsteds ever completed work on the Broadway Squares. Goodwin & Associates, Inc. was directed to review all ordinances related to Broadway. According to the archivist, the City Archives does not have the indices to city ordinances, thereby requiring a year-by-year review of all ordinances enacted by the Mayor and City Council. Goodwin & Associates, Inc. was referred to the Baltimore City Department of Legislative Reference.

#### The postcard collection at Cylburn Arboretum

The postcard collection at Cylburn Arboretum was searched for historic views of the Broadway Squares.

#### The Baltimore Museum of Industry online collection

The online photograph collection of the Baltimore Museum of Industry was reviewed for historic images of the Broadway Squares.

#### The Maryland Historical Society

The records of the Municipal Art Society and the Public Park Commission, vertical files, city ordinances, historic maps, monographs, and the online photograph collection of the Maryland Historical Society were reviewed. Some of the newspaper articles in the

vertical files were the same as those available at the Enoch Pratt Free Library. The following records of the Municipal Art Society were examined: Series II: Municipal Art Society Pre-Merger, 1905-1919; Series XII: Miscellaneous Files, 1928-1949; and Record Book, 1908-1919. The materials of the Municipal Art Society consisted of a scrapbook of newspaper clippings; correspondence and meeting minutes; and topical materials such as civic concerns and the work of Frederick Law Olmsted. The records did not include any references to the Broadway Squares or any association with Olmsted firms and the squares.

#### The Department of Legislative Reference, Baltimore City Hall

A number of records were reviewed at the Department of Legislative Reference. The bulk of data included in the Maryland Inventory of Historic Places form prepared on the Broadway Squares was obtained from the records available at the Department of Legislative Reference. A more detailed summary of the archival collection follows.

- *Annual Reports*, Public Park Commission (including all reorganizations of the commission)

The reports include a number of maps; however, the overwhelming majority of maps are of Druid Hill Park. Nearly all discussions focus on Druid Hill Park and Patterson Park. The 1891 *Annual Report* is the first time a balance sheet is included that records expenses for all parks and squares. The report provides only the amount but no discussion on how funds were expended. For the years 1897-1917, the *Annual Reports* of the Board of Park Commissioners include few references to the Broadway Squares. References are limited to expenses associated with maintenance and the purchase price of the squares and acreage. *Annual Reports* for the years 1918-1946 appear to be missing.

No *Annual Reports* for the time period June 1939 to June 1947 for the Board of Recreation and Parks were available at the Department of Legislative Reference. The reports for the 1950s have a line item for a lump sum for maintenance expenses for Squares, Boulevard Parking and Special Lots. Expenses for individual squares, boulevard parking and special lots are not provided. In the 1954 report, the department begins to identify the status of proposed and completed projects by park and park district. Improvements for park districts are discussed briefly. For example, a description of improvements undertaken would include a description such as the number of flower beds, drinking fountains, picnic tables, flagstaffs, etc. for the entire district. The number of these elements was not broken down by specific park within a district. For the first time, the 1967 report provides the names of contractors undertaking work at the various parks.

- *Annual Reports* for the Commission for Opening Streets 1871-1917

The report for 1871 is the first year available at the Department of Legislative Reference. Relevant reports were reviewed. The reports are not indexed.



- *City Council Journals 1877-1878*

The *City Council Journals*, which consist of meeting minutes of the Baltimore City Council, were sampled. The minutes include the ordinance/resolution number, the name of the Councilmember making the motion, and the final City Council vote. Discussion, if any, is limited. Sometimes reports prepared by commissions of the City Council are referenced in the journals. These records were never put with documentation submitted with the bill files. Legislative Reference does not retain the records of the City Council. The *City Council Journals* are not indexed.

- Board of Public Recreation Meeting Minutes 1937-1939

The meeting minutes for the Board of Public Recreation were skimmed. The minutes, which are not indexed, are short, and on average are two to three pages.

- Board of Recreation and Parks Meeting Minutes 1948-1949

The board had monthly meetings. Based on a review for the above years (the only years available at the Department of Legislative Reference) the board appeared to set department policy. Topics discussed included park administration; administrative policy; policy for use of public parks by outside groups and organizations; department finances; the acquisition of additional park property; Memorial Stadium governance; and, personnel policies. The minutes are not indexed.

- *Public Parks of Baltimore*

Prepared by the Board of Public Park Commissioners in 1927, these guidebooks offer short histories of the following parks: Federal Hill Park, Patterson Park, and Druid Hill Park.

- City Council Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinances identified in a 1903/1904 *Annual Report* were reviewed. The indices prepared in 1900 and 1907 were not available.

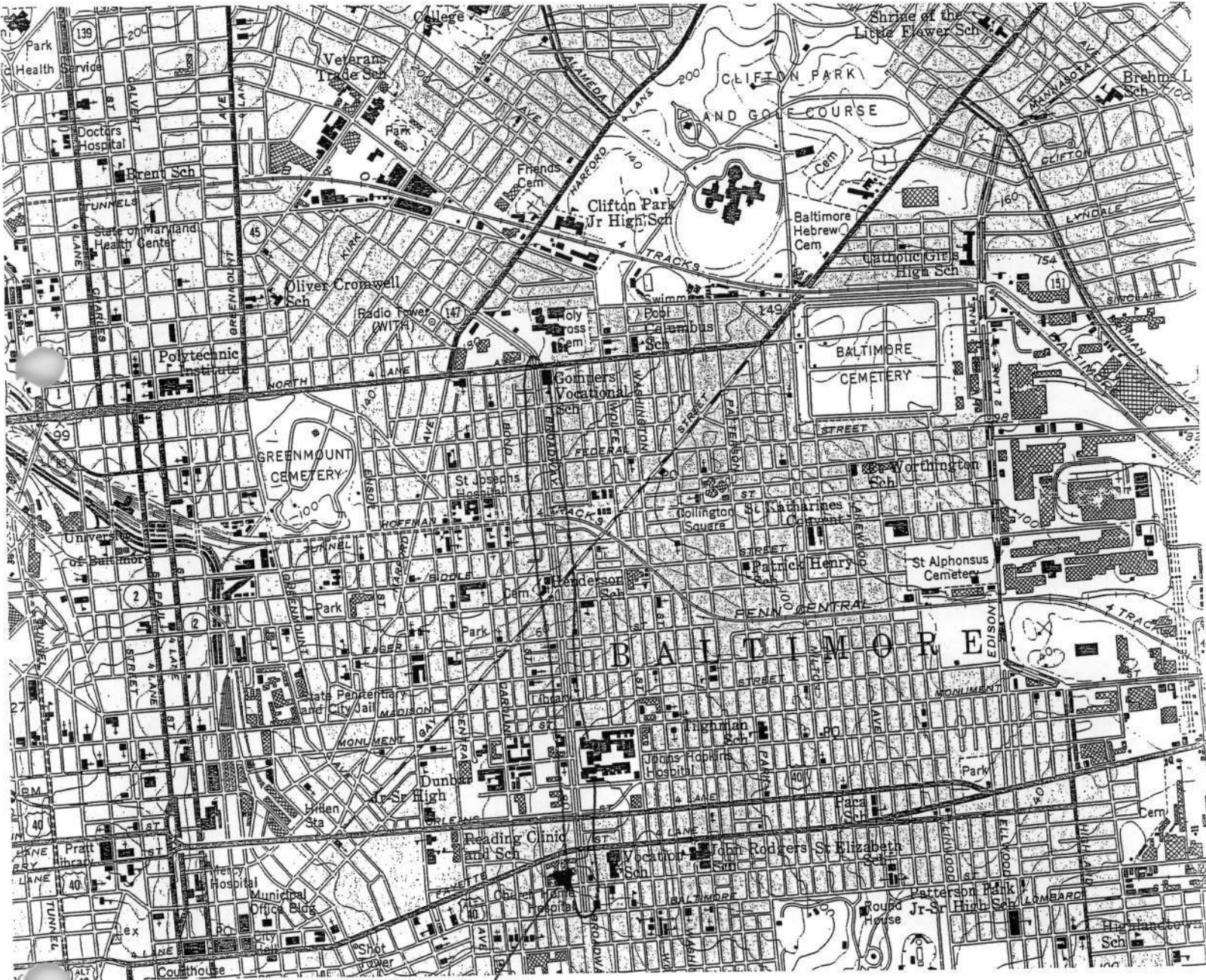
- *Report and Recommendations on Park Extension for Baltimore 1926* prepared by the City Plan Commission of the Department of Public Work

The Olmsted Brothers Consultants prepared the 1926 report, which was an update to the 1904 report prepared by the firm. Broadway is identified in the report as a "present park." No other details on Broadway are provided.

In summary, research to date has been unable to provide a link of an Olmsted association to the design of the Broadway Median.



B-5138  
Broadway Squares  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
USGS Map: Baltimore East



B-5138



James Field Force Main and Pressure Tunnel from the  
Kaiser Pumping Station to Broadway and University  
A PROJECT FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED BY  
STATE OF MARYLAND

UNDER THE DIRECTION  
OF THE  
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT  
OF THE ENVIRONMENT

MDE

APPROVED BY  
THE PUBLIC  
OF THE  
STATE OF MARYLAND

PROJECTS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION  
BY  
WILLIAM B. BROWN, INCORPORATED  
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FIELD PROJECT MANAGER  
WILLIAM B. BROWN, INCORPORATED  
WILLIAM B. BROWN, INCORPORATED

MIHP-B-5138  
BROADWAY SQUARES  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD  
KIPSTEIN PEELER  
25 JAN 07  
NORTH AVE, WALKING S  
1 OF 28



MHP B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

KIPSETH PEELER

25 JAN 07

LAMAR STREET, LOOKING SOUTH

2 OF 28





M14P B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

KIRSTIN PELEK

25 JAN 07

FEDERAL ST LOOKING S

3 OF 28



MHHP B-5138  
BROADWAY SOURCES  
Baltimore City, MD  
KIPSTERN PEELER  
25 JAN 07  
OLIVER ST, LOOKING SOUTH  
4 OF 28





MIHP B-5158

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

KIRSTEN RICHER

25 JAN 07

PRISTON ST, LOOKING NORTH

5 of 28



MHP B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

KIRSTEN PEELER

25 JAN 27

PRESTON ST, LOOKING SOUTH

6 OF 28



MHT B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

KIRSTEN PEELER

25 JAN 07

BIDDLE ST - LOOKING SOUTH

7 OF 28





MHTA B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

WESTERN PEELER

25 JAN 07

CHASE ST - WOLING SQ

8 OF 28



MHP B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

KIRSTEN PEELER

25 JAN 07

CAGE STREET LOOKING N

9 OF 28



MIAP B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

KIRSTEN PULLER

25 JAN 07

ASHLAND AVE, LOOKING SOUTH

W OF 28





MAP B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARE

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

KIRSTEN PEELER

25 JAN 07

MADISON STREET (FROM MONUMENT ST)

LOOKING NORTH

11 OF 28



MHP B-5138  
BROADWAY SQUARES  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD  
WESTERN PEELER  
25 JAN 07  
MADISON STREET, LOOKING NORTH  
12 OF 28



MAP B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

KIRSTEN AICLER

25 JAN 07

MONUMENT ST - WALKING SOUTH

13 OF 28





MILHP B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

WIPSTEN PEELER

25 JUNE 07

MONUMENT ST - WALKING SOUTH

W 05 28



MFA  
EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE  
VEHICLES  
ONLY

MURP B-5138  
BROADWAY SQUARE  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD

WYATT FIELD

25 JAN 07

MCILDERPY ST - WORKING SOUTH

15 OF 28



MUTPA D-5138  
BROADWAY SQUARES  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD  
WILSTERN PEELER  
25 JAN 87  
OFL ARIS ST - LOOKING NORTH  
14 OF 28



*Historic*  
**ON HILL**

PLEASE  
PICK UP AFTER  
YOUR PET

MHP B-518  
ROADWAY SQUARE  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD  
WISSEN PILLER  
25 JAN 07  
FAMITE ST - LOOKING SOUTH  
17 CF 78



MILP B-5138  
BROADWAY SQUARES  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD  
KIP STELL PEELER  
25 JAN 17

FAIRMOUNT ST - COOLING NORTH  
W OF 28



MIHP B-5138  
BRUNNEN SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

KIRSTEN PETER

25 JAN 07

FAIRMONT ST - LOOKING SOUTH

19 OF 28





MHP B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

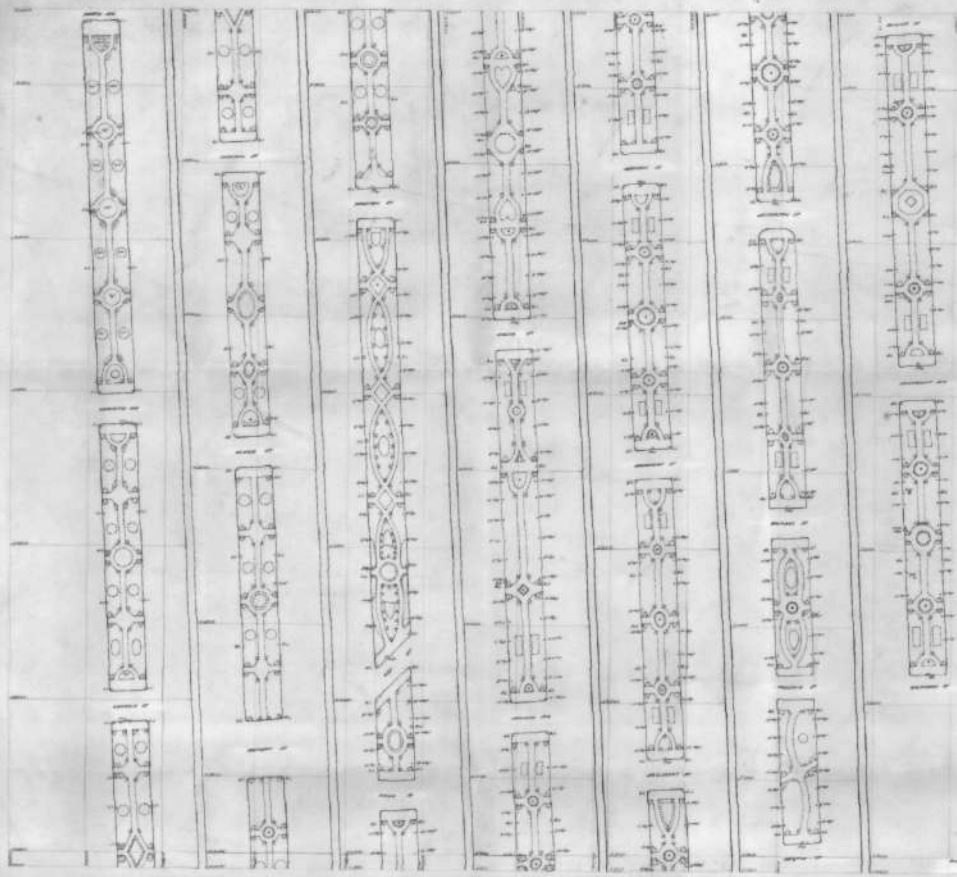
BALTIMORE CITY, MD

KIRSTEN PEELE

25 JAN 07

BALTIMORE ST - LOOKING N EPTD

20 OF 24



MHP B-5158

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

1912 PLAN OF BROADWAY SQUARES

21 OF 28

Excelsior Stereo. Views,



Broadway Boulevard, Baltimore.



By W. M. Chase.

MHP B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

UNDATED STERILIZED

22 OF 28



BALTIMORE. JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL.

L. M. Laßt Euch das Paradiese Wissen  
/ freier. Hoffentlich hier if bald was sein  
/ so weit und kein Wort. Dein o.



MURP B-5138  
BROADWAY SQUARE  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD  
1904 PORTLAND  
23 OF 24



*Baltimore Md. Johns Hopkins Hospital.*

*I think you better come  
to this place for awhile.  
Take good advice.*

MUTP B-5138  
BROADWAY SQUARE  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD  
1900 POSTCARD  
24 OF 28

*JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL, BALTIMORE, MD.*



MURR B-5138  
BROADWAY SQUARES  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD  
1939 POSTCARD  
25 OF 28

Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md.



MHP B-5138  
BROADWAY SQUARES  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD  
1913 POSTCARD  
26 OF 28





Series 1105 A.

Johns Hopkins Hospital & Broadway, Baltimore, Md.

Davidson Bro

MINA B-5138  
BROADWAY SQUARES  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD  
1914 POSTCARD  
27 of 28



John Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md.

MAP B-5138

BROADWAY SQUARES

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

UNDATED POSTCARD

26 APR 28